Supreme Court, U. S.
FILED
AUG 9 1954
HAROLD B. WILLEY, Clerk

In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1953.

No. 222.

HOWARD R. BENSON and ROBERT H. BENSON,
doing business as
BENSON SCAFFOLD MANUFACTURING COMPANY,

Petitioners,

VERSUS

A. F. HUTTO AND NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY.

BRIEF OF RESPONDENT A. F. HUTTO
In Opposition to Petition for a Writ of Certiorari.

JOE VAN DERVEER,
Attorney for Respondent A. F. Hutto.

VAN DERVEER & PARKS,
James Building,
Chattanooga, Tennessee,
Of Counsel.

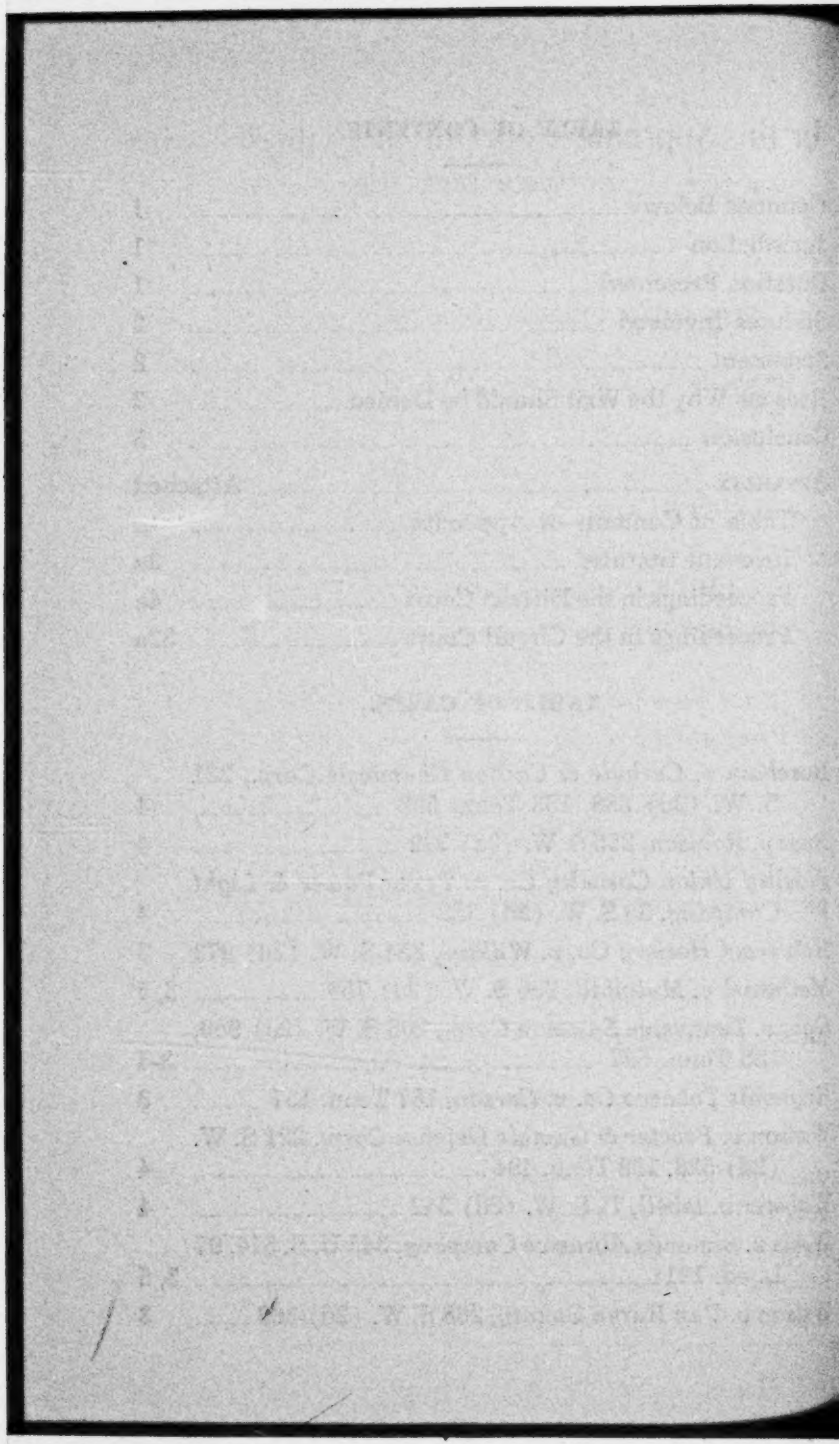
THE GATES LEGAL PUBLISHING CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO—MAIN 1-9547

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Opinions Below	1
Jurisdiction	1
Question Presented	1
Statutes Involved	2
Statement	2
Reasons Why the Writ Should be Denied	3
Conclusion	5
APPENDIX	Attached
Table of Contents of Appendix	1a
Relevant Statutes	3a
Proceedings in the District Court	4a
Proceedings in the Circuit Court	32a

TABLE OF CASES.

Burcham v. Carbide & Carbon Chemicals Corp., 221 S. W. (2d) 888, 188 Tenn. 592	4
Buss v. Robison, 255 S. W. (2d) 339	4
Fidelity Union Casualty Co. v. Texas Power & Light Company, 35 S. W. (2d) 782	4
Holeproof Hosiery Co. v. Wilkins, 254 S. W. (2d) 973	3
McDaniel v. Mulvihill, 236 S. W. (2d) 759	3, 5
Ogle v. Tennessee Eastman Corp., 206 S. W. (2d) 909, 185 Tenn. 527	3-4
Reynolds Tobacco Co. v. Carson, 187 Tenn. 157	3
Watson v. Procter & Gamble Defense Corp., 221 S. W. (2d) 528, 188 Tenn. 494	4
Webster v. Isbell, 71 S. W. (2d) 342	4
Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Company, 345 U. S. 514, 97 L. ed. 1211	3, 5
Wilson v. Van Buren County, 268 S. W. (2d) 363	3



In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1953.

No. .....

HOWARD R. BENSON and ROBERT H. BENSON,
doing business as
BENSON SCAFFOLD MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
Petitioners,

VERSUS

A. F. HUTTO AND NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY.

BRIEF OF RESPONDENT A. F. HUTTO
In Opposition to Petition for a Writ of Certiorari.

Your respondent, A. F. Hutto, respectfully files this, his Brief in Opposition to the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari.

OPINIONS BELOW.

The opinions below are correctly reported by the petitioners.

JURISDICTION.

Your respondent agrees with the petitioners as to the jurisdictional allegations.

QUESTION PRESENTED.

If an action for damages by reason of personal injuries sustained is brought in the State of the Forum within one year from the time the cause of action accrued in a foreign state is the action barred by the forum state's one year Statute of Limitations because the injury occurred more than one year prior to the commencement of the action?

STATUTES INVOLVED.

The relevant statutes are set out in the appendix hereto, at page 3a.

STATEMENT.

A. F. Hutto, a citizen and resident of the State of Texas, a painter by trade, employed by a painting contractor in the State of Texas sustained serious personal injuries on August 13, 1951, by reason of the defendant's manufactured scaffold giving away.

In conformity with the Workmen's Compensation Act for the State of Texas, the relevant portions of which are set forth in the appendix, he made application for those benefits due him. His claim followed the usual procedure provided by that act reaching settlement on November 29, 1951. The relevant proceedings in this claim are set forth in the appendix. Thereafter, on August 20, 1952, he filed this action against the negligent manufacturers of the scaffold, or third parties, citizens and residents of the State of Tennessee.

On September 6, 1952, the defendants filed a motion to dismiss the action on the ground that the Tennessee one-year statute of limitations had run. On December 10, 1952, he moved to amend the original complaint by inserting the allegations concerning the proceedings had before the Industrial Accident Commission in Texas under the Texas Workmen's Compensation Act.

On February 3, 1953, the District Judge, Robert L. Taylor, filed a memorandum opinion in which he sustained defendant's motion to dismiss, denied his motion to amend the complaint on the ground that the Tennessee one-year statute of limitations applied and had run and that the cause of action accrued at the time of the accident, or August 13, 1951.

On February 17, 1953, an order was entered upon said memorandum opinion, dismissing the plaintiff's action. Thereafter the plaintiff appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in due course, and after hearing, decision was rendered on April 30, 1954, reversing the decision of District Judge Taylor and remanding the case to the District Court for further proceedings.

REASONS WHY THE WRIT SHOULD BE DENIED.

The decision of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in no way conflicts with the law of the State of Tennessee, as interpreted by the Supreme Court of Tennessee in *McDaniel v. Mulvihill*, 236 S. W. (2d) 759, or with the recent decision of this Honorable Court in *Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Company*, 345 U. S. 514, 97 L. ed. 1211.

Tennessee's, the state of the forum's statute of limitations, provides:

> "All civil actions * * * personal injuries shall be commenced * * * within one year * * * after the cause of action has accrued * * *." (Exact wording contained in appendix.)

Tennessee Courts interpret this statute just as its *plain* language demands, as shown in *Reynolds Tobacco Co. v. Carson*, 187 Tenn. 157—that the statute of limitations runs only after the accrual of a complete right of action. Obvious examples are found in *Wilson v. Van Buren County*, 268 S. W. (2d) 363, where the statute ran from the date of "incapacity for work" and not from the date of injury; in *Holeproof Hosiery Co. v. Wilkins*, 254 S. W. (2d) 973, where the statute ran from the date of the last payment of compensation and not from the date of the accident; and in *Ogle v. Tennessee Eastman Corp.*, 206

S. W. (2d) 909, 185 Tenn. 527; *Watson v. Procter & Gamble Defense Corp.*, 221 S. W. (2d) 528, 188 Tenn. 494, and *Burcham v. Carbide & Carbon Chemicals Corp.*, 221 S. W. (2d) 888, 188 Tenn. 592, where the statute commenced to run from the occurrence of the injury and not from the occurrence of the accident. Thus the courts of the State of Tennessee—the state of the forum—recognize that the "cause of action" sometimes "accrues" at a later date than the happening of the accident.

For the date of the accrual of the action we look to the law of the State of Texas. There, as is so plainly set forth in that state's "third party action" statute (set forth in the appendix), we find that the injured employee may claim compensation and thereafter proceed against the negligent third party. The courts of that state have unequivocally held in *Fidelity Union Casualty Co. v. Texas Power & Light Company*, 35 S. W. (2d) 782, that "no cause of action accrued until the compensation claim was finally adjudicated." Such is also the holding of that court in *Webster v. Isbell*, 71 S. W. (2d) 342, and the recent case of *Buss v. Robison*, 255 S. W. (2d) 339.

It therefore follows—applying the substantive law of the State of Texas where the accident occurred—that the cause of action accrued when the compensation claim was finally adjudicated—or on November 29, 1951—and applying the procedural law of the State of Tennessee—or the forum—the action being commenced on August 20, 1952—or less than one year after the cause of action accrued the action was timely brought.

The authorities cited by the petitioners, your respondent respectfully submits, are simply not in point for, as pointed out by the Court of Appeals:

> "Since the action did not accrue until after the settlement of the compensation claim it is timely

brought, whether the one-year statute of Tennessee or the two-year statute of Texas is applied."

CONCLUSION.

The decision of the Court of Appeals, a review of which the petitioners here are asking of this Court, is not warranted because:

1. No conflict exists between the Texas and Tennessee decisions.

2. The Court of Appeals recognized the recent decision of this Honorable Court in *Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Co.*, 345 U. S. 514, 97 L. ed. 1211, and the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Tennessee in *McDaniel v. Mulvihill*, 236 S. W. (2d), 759. Those decisions are inapplicable by reason of different facts.

3. This decision is not of such import as to warrant a review by this Honorable Court.

Wherefore, your respondent prays that a Writ of Certiorari be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

By Joe Van Derveer,

Attorney for Respondent, A. F. Hutto.

Van Derveer & Parks,

Of Counsel.

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF APPENDIX.

RELEVANT STATUTES:

1. Section 8592 of the Code of Tennessee ---------- 3a
2. Section 8595 of the Code of Tennessee ---------- 3a

PROCEEDINGS IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE, NORTHERN DIVISION:

Docket Entries ---------- 4a

Complaint (Aug. 20, 1952) ---------- 6a

Motion to Dismiss (Sept. 6, 1952) ---------- 7a

Motion of Newark Insurance Company to Intervene as Plaintiff (Nov. 24, 1952) ---------- 8a

Intervening Complaint ---------- 9a

Motion to Amend Complaint (Dec. 10, 1952) ---------- 12a

Memorandum Opinion of Taylor, D.J. (Feb. 3, 1953) 14a

Order Dismissing Action at Plaintiff's Costs (Feb. 17, 1953) ---------- 18a

Notice of Appeal of A. F. Hutto (Feb. 18, 1953) ---------- 19a

Cost Bond of A. F. Hutto (Feb. 18, 1953) ---------- 19a

Notice of Appeal of Newark Insurance Company (Mar. 13, 1953) ---------- 20a

Cost Bond of Newark Insurance Company (Mar. 13, 1953) ---------- 21a

Order Making Certain Exhibits a Part of the Record (Mar. 13, 1953) ---------- 22a

Claim for Compensation for Injury Filed by A. F. Hutto, Claimant, with the Industrial Accident Board, State of Texas, Dated September 19, 1951 (Sept. 19, 1951) ---------- 23a

Notice by A. F. Hutto, Claimant, of Demand for Lump Sum Settlement of Compensation Claim Filed with the Industrial Accident Board, State of Texas, on September 28, 1951 (Sept. 28, 1951) 26a

Medical Report of Dr. Jack E. Maxfield, Dated October 20, 1951, Filed with the Industrial Accident Board of the State of Texas ---------- 27a

Notice of Appeal to a Court of Competent Jurisdiction by A. F. Hutto, Claimant, Filed with the Industrial Accident Board, State of Texas, Dated October 23, 1951 (Oct. 23, 1951) ---------- 29a

Copy of Senate Bill No. 237, Section 6-A, As Passed by the Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the State of Texas, Commonly Referred to As the "Third Party Action" Statute, Article 8307, Section 6(a) of Vernons Texas Statutes ---------- 30a

PROCEEDINGS IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT:

Causes Argued and Submitted (Feb. 8, 1954) ------ 32a

Judgment. No. 11,873 (Apr. 30, 1954) ---------- 32a

Judgment. No. 11,874 (Apr. 30, 1954) ---------- 33a

Opinion (Apr. 30, 1954) ---------- 34a

RELEVANT STATUTES.

1. Section 8592 of the Code of Tennessee is as follows:

8592 4466 (2769). Actions to be commenced within the time limited.—All civil actions, other than those for causes embraced in the preceding article, shall be commenced after the cause of action has accrued, within the periods prescribed in this chapter, unless otherwise expressly provided.

2. Section 8595 of the Code of Tennessee is as follows:

8595 4469 (2772). One year for libel, personal injuries, etc.—Actions for libel, for injuries to the person, false imprisonment, malicious prosecution, criminal conversation, seduction, breach of marriage promise, and statutory penalties, within one year after cause of action accrued.

Civil Action No. 2010.

United States District Court

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE,
NORTHERN DIVISION.

A. F. HUTTO,

Plaintiff,

vs.

HOWARD R. BENSON and ROBERT H. BENSON, d. b. a. BENSON CABLE SCAFFOLD MANUFACTURING CO.,

Defendants.

DOCKET ENTRIES.

Aug. 20, 1952. Complaint filed.

Aug. 20, 1952. Summons for two defendants Knox County issued and handed U. S. Marshal.

Aug. 22, 1952. Summons returned, personally served on Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson on August 20, 1952, by leaving copy of complaint and summons. Filed.

Sept. 6, 1952. Motion to dismiss filed. Copy served by attorney.

Sept. 6, 1952. Memo Brief in support of Motion to Dismiss the Complaint, filed. Copy served by attorney.

Sept. 12, 1952. Memo Brief resisting motion complaint, filed. Copy served by attorney.

Nov. 24, 1952. Motion of Newark Insurance Company to intervene as plaintiff, filed.

Dec. 1, 1952. Brief of Newark Insurance Company in support of its motion to be permitted to intervene as a party plaintiff, filed. Copies served by Counsel.

Dec. 2, 1952. Motion of Newark Insurance Company to Intervene as Plaintiff and Motion to Dismiss heard and taken under advisement. Plaintiff is allowed ten days to file brief and defendants are allowed twenty days for filing reply brief, entered in Civil Order Book 9, page 600.

Dec. 10, 1952. Motion to Amend Complaint, filed.

Dec. 10, 1952. Memorandum Brief supporting Motion to Amend, relating back thereof, and resisting Motion to Dismiss, filed. Copy served by Counsel.

Jan. 8, 1953. Memorandum brief in behalf of Defendants in opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Amend, filed.

Jan. 9, 1953. Memo Brief of Newark Insurance Company in support of Motion to Amend filed by original plaintiff, filed. Copies served by attorney.

Feb. 3, 1953. Memorandum Opinion of Taylor, D. J. that plaintiff's suit is barred by the Tennessee one-year statute of limitations; the Motion to Amend the Complaint should be denied because the proposed amendment would not affect the outcome; the motion to intervene should be denied for the reason above indicated; the motion to dismiss should be sustained for the reason that action was not timely commenced, let an order be prepared, filed. Copies mailed by Clerk.

Feb. 17, 1953. Order dismissing suit at plaintiff's cost, entered in Civil Order Book 9, page 669, and filed.

Feb. 18, 1953. Notice of Appeal, filed.

Feb. 18, 1953. Cost Bond on Appeal, filed.

Mar. 13, 1953. Notice of Appeal of Newark Insurance Company, filed. Copies mailed by Clerk.

Mar. 13, 1953. Cost Bond on Appeal, filed. Copies mailed by Clerk.

Mar. 16, 1953. Order by agreement of parties the following exhibits are made a part of the record—1. Claim for compensation for injury dated 9-19-51; 2. Notice of demand for lump sum settlement dated 9-28-51; 3. Medical Report of Dr. Jack E. Maxfield dated 10-20-51; 4. Notice of Appeal dated 10-23-51; and 5. Copy of Senate Bill No. 237, Section 6A, entered in Civil Order Book 9, page 701, and filed.

COMPLAINT.

(Filed August 20, 1952.)

The plaintiff is a citizen and resident of the State of Texas and the defendants are citizens and residents of the State of Tennessee, doing business as the Benson Cable Scaffold Manufacturing Company, with offices located at 303 Cherokee Building, Knoxville, Tennessee.

II.

The plaintiff has been for many years a painter by trade and more recently an employee of the C. H. A. Paint Company. That on or about the 13th day of August, 1951, while engaged in the performance of his duties and painting the "Alamo" School in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas, a scaffold made and/or manufactured by the defendants, then being used by the plaintiff, gave way by reason of its negligent or defective construction causing him to fall a great distance and suffer serious, disabling and permanent injuries. That it was by reason of the defendant's negligence that he was caused to suffer these injuries.

III.

That the plaintiff is approximately 40 years of age and is the sole support of his wife and seven small children, ranging in age from one to fifteen years, and that prior to his injury earned in excess of $100.00 each week. That he suffered a broken neck, a severe injury to his back, a severe injury to his right leg, a concussion of the brain and other wounds, bruises and contusions on and about the various parts of his head, arms, body and legs. That he was forced to wear a neck brace for a long period of time, that he suffered greatly in body and mind, received a severe shock to his nervous system, was caused to expend and become liable for large sums of money for hospital bills, doctor bills, nurses and other expenses necessary to his care and treatment, and lost large sums of money in wages that he otherwise would have earned. He further says

that his injuries are so serious and of such a nature that he will never completely recover therefrom but will forever remain sick, sore, lame, disfigured, and disordered—all by reason of the defendant's negligence.

Wherefore, the plaintiff demands judgment against the defendants for the sum of One Hundred Thousand ($100,000.00) Dollars, interest and costs.

The plaintiff demands a jury to try this cause.

Attorneys for Plaintiff:

JOE VAN DERVEER,
1010 James Bulding,
Chattanooga, Tennessee,

PEERY & KURIO,
Nacol Building,
Wichita Falls, Texas.

MOTION TO DISMISS.

(Filed September 6, 1952.)

Come Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, doing business as Benson Scaffold & Equipment Company, without questioning the improper name by which and in which they were sued, and move the Court, pursuant to Rule 12 (b) (6), to dismiss the summons and complaint upon the following ground, to-wit:

That the same show on their face that they were filed on August 20, 1952, in this Court, whereas the cause of action alleged accrued on the 13th day of August, 1951, and became barred by the one-year statute of limitations of the State of Tennessee on August 13, 1952.

Wherefore, these defendants pray the judgment of the Court whether they should further answer.

H. H. McCampbell, Jr.,
803 Burwell Building,
Knoxville, Tennessee,
Attorney for Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d. b. a. Benson Scaffold & Equipment Company.

MOTION OF NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY TO INTERVENE AS PLAINTIFF.

(Filed November 24, 1952.)

Comes the Newark Insurance Company and moves for leave to intervene in this action as plaintiff upon the ground that on and prior to August 13, 1951, it was the Workmen's Compensation insurance carrier for the C. H. A. Painting Company of Wichita Falls, Texas, and that as such insurance carrier it has heretofore paid compensation benefits as provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas to the plaintiff, A. F. Hutto; and that by virtue thereof and of the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas it is subrogated to the rights of the said A. F. Hutto, and that under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas the representation of the interest of the said Newark Insurance Company by the said A. F. Hutto is or may be inadequate and the said Newark Insurance Company is or may be bound by a judgment in this action.

Copy of the proposed complaint setting forth the claim of the Newark Insurance Company is hereto attached.

Erma G. Greenwood,
Attorney for Newark Insurance Company, Applicant for Intervention,
904 Burwell Building,
Knoxville, Tennessee.

INTERVENING COMPLAINT.

The intervenor above named, by leave of Court first had and obtained, files this its complaint of intervention, against the above named defendants, and says:

1. That it is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey and A. F. Hutto, the original plaintiff herein, is a citizen and resident of the State of Texas and the defendants are citizens and residents of the State of Tennessee.

2. That A. F. Hutto, the original plaintiff herein, filed a complaint herein on the 20th day of August, 1952, against Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d/b/a Benson Cable Scaffold Manufacturing Company seeking to recover damages in the amount of One Hundred Thousand ($100,000.00) Dollars for personal injuries sustained by the original plaintiff on or about the 13th day of August, 1951, when a scaffold made or manufactured by the defendants and then being used by the plaintiff gave way by reason of its negligent or defective construction and caused plaintiff to fall a great distance, and to sustain injuries to his body of a serious and permanent nature.

3. Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d/b/a Benson Scaffold & Equipment Company named as defendants in the original complaint and therein said to be doing business as Benson Cable Scaffold Manufacturing Company, without questioning the improper name in which they were sued, moved the court pursuant to Rule 12 (b) (6) to dismiss the summons and complaint upon the ground that the same showed upon their face that they were filed on August 20, 1952, whereas the cause of action alleged was shown to have occurred on the 13th day of August, 1951, and became barred by the one year statute of limitations of the State of Tennessee on August 13, 1952.

4. That on and prior to the 13th day of August, 1951, the original plaintiff, A. F. Hutto, was an employee of the C. H. A. Painting Company of Wichita Falls, Texas, and that on and prior to the said 13th day of August, 1951, the intervenor Newark Insurance Company was the Work-

men's Compensation insurance carrier for the said C. H. A. Painting Company.

5. That the original plaintiff, A. F. Hutto, received the injuries complained of in the original complaint herein as the result of an accident which arose out of and in the scope of his employment by the C. H. A. Painting Company when a scaffold made and/or manufactured by the defendants, Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d/b/a Benson Scaffold & Equipment Company, and which was being used by the plaintiff gave way.

6. That on or about September 13, 1951, the original plaintiff herein, A. F. Hutto, duly filed his claim for compensation for injury with the Industrial Accident Board of Texas under the style and number of *A. F. Hutto v. C. H. A. Painting Company,* No. K-45259.

7. That on or about November 23, 1951, and during the pendency of said claim before the Industrial Accident Board of Texas the parties entered into a compromise settlement agreement of said claim under the terms of which the Newark Insurance Company as Workmen's Compensation insurance carrier for C. H. A. Painting Company was to pay to said A. F. Hutto the sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred ($4,500.00) Dollars in addition to the sum of One Hundred Seventy-five ($175.00) Dollars which the said Newark Insurance Company had theretofore paid to the said A. F. Hutto, and in addition to medical expenses in the amount of Four Hundred Four and 65/100 ($404.-65) Dollars incurred by or for the said A. F. Hutto as the result of the accidental injuries aforesaid. That on the 29th day of November, 1951, the Industrial Accident Board of Texas entered an order approving the compromise settlement agreement made by the parties.

8. That pursuant to said order this intervenor, Newark Insurance Company, on or about December 1, 1951, paid to the said A. F. Hutto the additional sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred ($4,500.00) Dollars, making in all the sum of Five Thousand Seventy-nine and 65/100 ($5,079.65) Dollars paid by this intervenor as compensa-

tion benefits and medical services to the said A. F. Hutto as a result of the accidental injuries received by the said Hutto at the time and place aforesaid.

9. That under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas the employee, having collected benefits from his employer or its insurer under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas, may then proceed at law against a negligent third person to recover damages for the injuries sustained by him. However, under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas in those instances in which the employee prosecutes an action against a negligent third person after having received compensation benefits from his employer or its insurer, such employee may not recover from such negligent third party the sums paid by the insurer or employer. However, an insurer which has paid compensation benefits to an injured employee is subrogated to the rights of such injured employee against a negligent third party to the extent of payments made, expenses incurred, etc., and may itself maintain an action against such negligent third party, or may intervene as a party plaintiff in such an action brought by the injured employee and may itself recover from the negligent third party such sums paid by it to the employee together with the reasonable costs of such liability as determined by the court trying the case.

10. That the sole and proximate cause of the injuries received by the original plaintiff, A. F. Hutto, on said 13th day of August, 1951, was the negligence of the defendants, Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d/b/a Benson Scaffold & Equipment Company, in manufacturing, assembling and/or marketing the scaffold containing defective materials imperfectly and improperly manufactured and assembled.

Wherefore, this intervenor demands judgment against the defendants for the sum of Five Thousand Seventy-nine and 65/100 ($5,079.65) Dollars with interest thereon together with the sum representing this intervenor's reasonable cost of enforcing such liability and the costs of the

cause, and prays that an answer be filed hereto both by A. F. Hutto, the original plaintiff herein, and by Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d/b/a Benson Scaffold & Equipment Company, the original defendants herein.

This 24th day of November, 1952.

ERMA G. GREENWOOD,
R. R. KRAMER,
Attorneys for Newark Insurance Company,
904 Burwell Building,
Knoxville, Tennessee.

MOTION TO AMEND COMPLAINT.

(Filed December 10, 1952.)

Plaintiff moves the Court, in conformity with Rule 15 (a) and in accordance with a motion, orally made before the Court on December 2, 1952, for leave to amend his complaint, heretofore filed, by adding thereto immediately following paragraph III, a new paragraph as follows:

IV.

That his injuries arose "out of" and "in the course of" his employment and by reason thereof he filed a claim with the Industrial Accident Board of the State of Texas for those benefits provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act of that State on September 13, 1951, his employer, the C. H. A. Paint Company, and their workmen's compensation insurance carrier, the Newark Insurance Company, being duly notified. The Industrial Accident Board of the State of Texas, duly charged with the administra-

tion of the Workmen's Compensation Act of that State, determined that he was entitled to compensation, and accordingly made an award in an amount unsatisfactory to him. That thereafter he appealed the decision of the Industrial Accident Board to the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Wichita Falls Division, and while his suit was pending therein entered into a compromise agreement under the terms of which the Newark Insurance Company, as a Workmen's Compensation insurance carrier for his employer, paid to him the sum of Forty-five Hundred ($4500.00) Dollars in addition to the sum of One Hundred Seventy-five ($175.00) Dollars which the Newark Insurance Company had theretofore paid him and in addition to medical expenses to that date incurred by him in the amount of Four Hundred Four ($404.64) and 64/100 Dollars. That on the 29th day of November, 1951, the Industrial Accident Board of the State of Texas entered an order approving the compromise settlement made by the parties.

And by adding thereto another new paragraph as follows:

V.

That under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of the State of Texas, the injured employee, having collected from his employer or its insurer those benefits provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act of the State of Texas, may then proceed at law against a negligent third party, or that party responsible for his injuries, and recover damages therefor. That the amount received by him under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of the State of Texas are hideously inadequate in view of the seriousness of his injuries and he therefore now brings this action.

JOE VAN DERVEER,
Attorney for Plaintiff.

MEMORANDUM OPINION OF TAYLOR, D.J.

(Filed February 3, 1953.)

Plaintiff, a painter, sustained injury by a fall from a scaffold. The accident occurred in Texas where plaintiff, proceeding under the Workmen's Compensation law of that State, received compensation benefits by way of a compromise settlement approved by the Texas compensation board. He thereafter brought this action at law in Tennessee to recover damages from defendant as to the third parties who allegedly caused his injuries by their sale of defective equipment. Newark Insurance Company, the employer's insurance carrier, has filed a motion for leave to intervene, claiming subrogation to the extent of the benefits awarded to the plaintiff. The plaintiff has also filed a motion for leave to amend the complaint, by which amendment he would make it appear that his present action is based upon a statutory right. A third motion is that of defendants to dismiss the action as barred by the Tennessee one-year statute of limitations, as provided in Code Sec. 8595.

As it originally stood, the complaint in terms stated a common law cause of action in tort, without any effort to assert a statutory right. The motion to dismiss followed the filing of this complaint. It is advisable to examine the status of the case at the time the motion was filed, for in the opinion of the court that status would not have been any different if the proposed amendment had been a part of the complaint as originally filed.

The accident occurred August 13, 1951. Summons in the present action was served on defendants August 20, 1952. The complaint was filed September 6, 1952. Both the complaint and summons bear effective dates subsequent to expiration of the Tennessee one-year period of limitations. For a common law action for personal injury the Texas period of limitation is two years. The question is whether the Texas two-year period or the Tennessee one-year period is applicable. If the Texas law controls, commencement of the action was timely; otherwise, it is barred.

Following are pertinent sections from the *Restatement, Conflict of Laws*:

> Sec. 378. "The law of the place of wrong determines whether a person has sustained a legal injury."
>
> Sec. 585. "All matters of procedure are governed by the law of the forum."
>
> Sec. 603. "If action is barred by the statute of limitations of the forum, no action can be maintained though action is not barred in the state where the cause of action arose."

The illustration given under Sec. 603 is as follows:

> "A is unlawfully beaten by B in state X. By the statute of limitations of X, an action for battery is barred after the expiration of two years. By the statute of limitations of Y, an action for battery is barred after the expiration of one year from the time B became suable in Y."

In a diversity of citizenship case, such as this, a Federal Court will apply the law of conflicts of the State in which the Federal Court sits. *Klaxon Co. v. Stentor Electric Mfg. Co.*, 313 U. S. 487; *Griffin v. McCoach*, 313 U. S. 498. Tennessee follows the rules stated in Secs. 585 and 603 of the *Restatement*, above quoted. *McKissick v. McKissick*, 25 Tenn. 75; *Lally v. Holland*, 31 Tenn. 396; *King v. Doolittle*, 38 Tenn. 77; *Estes v. Kyle*, 19 Tenn. 34; *Fitzsimmons v. Johnson*, 90 Tenn. 416; *Barbour v. Erwin*, 82 Tenn. 716; *Ridge v. Cowley*, 74 Tenn. 166. The Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit has applied the law as above stated in cases brought in the Federal courts. *Wilson v. Massengill*, 6 Cir., 124 F. 2d 666; *Maki v. George R. Cooke Co.*, 6 Cir., 124 F. 2d 663. See also *Goodwin v. Townsend*, 3 Cir., 197 F. 2d 970.

As an action at common law, under the *Restatement* rules and the decisions above cited, the action as originally commenced is barred. As heretofore indicated, the amendment to the complaint, if allowed, would not save the action.

The rules of the *Restatement*, quoted above, do not apply where the right sought to be asserted in the forum state is derived from a statute which provides its own period of limitation. *Wilson v. Massengill*, 6 Cir., 124 F. 2d 666. In such case the right created by statute and the period of its preservation comprise a unitary right in law, and the rule applicable is that set out in Sec. 378 of the *Restatement*; namely, "The law of the place of wrong determines whether a person has sustained a legal injury." If the cause of action is one unknown to the common law, the statute which fixes the period of its preservation is as much a part of the right as the cause of action itself, both being creatures of statute and bound together by the statute of their creation. The result is that the *lex loci*, and not the *lex fori*, controls. *Wilson v. Massengill, supra.* However, the limitation rule as to an action to assert a statutory right does not apply to the instant case for the reason, as will hereinafter be seen, that the cause of action asserted here is one at common law.

Where an employer is injured by a third party under circumstances which would give the injured party a common law action for damages, and the employer and employee operate under the workmen's compensation statute, the compensation statute of Texas accords the injured employee an option. He may proceed at common law against the third party to recover damages for his injury, or he may sue for benefits under the compensation law. But he may not pursue both remedies concurrently. Nor may he recover from the third party his entire damages, unless he elects to proceed against the third party only. Where an employee first proceeds under the compensation law and thereunder recovers benefits, his recovery against the third party is limited to damages in excess of the compensation benefit.

Attention of the court in relation to the Texas compensation law has been called to Texas decisions which hold that the general statute of limitation in Texas does not run against the employee while his compensation suit

is pending. *Fidelity Union Casualty Co. v. Texas Power & Light Co.*, 35 S. W. 2d 782; *Webster v. Isbell*, 71 S. W. 2d 342. If any Texas statute of limitations were applicable in the present action it would be the general two-year statute, for the compensation statute itself provides no period of limitation. The Texas compensation law does provide, however, that upon termination of the compensation suit, the obligor for payment of compensation benefits is subrogated to the rights of the employee against the third party to the extent of the compensation payment or award. It is further indicated by citation of Texas court decisions that the cause of action of such obligor is not independent and severable from that of the employee, but that the third party may be subjected to only the one action for damages. *Hartford Accident & Indemnity Co. v. Weeks Drug Store et al.*, 161 S. W. 2d 153.

Analysis of the Texas statute discloses that it creates a cause of action for compensation benefits. It does not create a common law cause of action against the third party. Its effect rather is to restrict as to amount and to postpone as to time the employee's common law action against the third party. Accordingly, amendment of the complaint in the manner heretofore indicated as sought by plaintiff would not change the action here from being an action at common law. The common law action here is one not created by, but one restricted and postponed by, statute. It is conceivable that under this construction an action in this state might be postponed so long that a plaintiff would be barred from bringing a common law action because of undue prolongation of compensation proceedings in Texas, a result that does not affect the present case for the reason that plaintiff had more than eight months in which to commence the action here after conclusion of the compensation proceedings.

The result is that the plaintiff's suit is barred by the Tennessee one-year statute of limitations. Being barred, it is not one that admits of intervention. *Wright et al. v. The Praetorians et al.*, 63 F. Supp. 839; *Coffman et al. v. Southern Coal Co., Inc., et al.*, 52 F. Supp. 351. The motion to amend the complaint should be denied because the pro-

posed amendment would not affect the outcome. The motion to intervene should be denied for the reason above indicated. The motion to dismiss should be sustained for the reason that the action was not timely commenced.

Let an appropriate order be prepared.

ROBT. L. TAYLOR,
Judge.

ORDER DISMISSING ACTION AT PLAINTIFF'S COSTS.

(Entered February 17, 1953.)

This cause came on to be heard at a former day upon the motion of the defendants to dismiss, the motion of the plaintiff to amend, and the motion of the Newark Insurance Company for leave to intervene, all duly served and filed herein.

Briefs having been filed in support of said motions, and argument of counsel for the respective parties having been heard, the Court took the matter under consideration and filed a memorandum herein on February 3, 1953, sustaining the defendants' motion to dismiss and disallowing the respective motions to amend and to intervene.

It is accordingly ordered, adjudged and decreed that plaintiff's action be, and it is hereby dismissed at plaintiff's costs.

NOTICE OF APPEAL OF A. F. HUTTO.

(Filed February 18, 1953.)

Notice is hereby given that the plaintiff in the above styled case hereby appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit from the order sustaining the defendants' motion to dismiss and disallowing the plaintiff's motion to amend his complaint.

JOE VAN DERVEER,
Attorney for Plaintiff,
1010-11 James Building,
Chattanooga, Tennessee.

COST BOND OF A. F. HUTTO.

(Filed February 18, 1953.)

Know All Men by These Presents, That Joe Van Derveer and The Home Indemnity Company of New York, New York, are held and firmly bound unto Howard R. Benson and Robert Benson, d/b/a Benson Cable Scaffold Manufacturing Company, their executors, administrators, or assigns, in the sum of Two Hundred Fifty ($250.00) Dollars, lawful money of the United States of America, to be paid unto the said Howard R. Benson and Robert Benson, d/b/a Benson Cable Scaffold Manufacturing Company, their executors, administrators, or assigns, to which payment well and truly to be made, they do bind and oblige their heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally by these presents.

Whereas, the above-named A. F. Hutto, a citizen of the state of Texas, has this day filed a Notice of Appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in the case styled A. F. Hutto v. Howard R. Benson and

Robert Benson, d/b/a Benson Cable Scaffold Manufacturing Company.

Now Therefore the Condition of This Obligation is such that if the above-named A. F. Hutto shall duly prosecute and perfect his appeal, and shall pay, on demand, all costs of the appeal that may be adjudged or awarded against A. F. Hutto, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise, the same shall be and remain in full force and effect.

JOE VAN DERVEER,
Attorney for Plaintiff,
1010-11 James Building,
Chattanooga, Tennessee.

THE HOME INDEMNITY COMPANY OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK,
by C. T. WITHROW,
Attorney in Fact.

NOTICE OF APPEAL OF NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY.

(Filed March 13, 1953.)

Notice is hereby given that Newark Insurance Company hereby appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit from that portion of the order entered in this action on the 17th day of February, 1953, refusing it permission to intervene in the captioned cause as a party plaintiff.

ERMA G. GREENWOOD,
R. R. KRAMER,
Attorneys for Newark Insurance Company,
904 Burwell Building,
Knoxville, Tennessee.

COST BOND OF NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY.

(Filed March 13, 1953.)

Know All Men by These Presents that we, Newark Insurance Company, as principal, and Erma G. Greenwood, as surety, are held and firmly bound unto A. F. Hutto and Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d/b/a Benson Scaffold & Equipment Company, to be paid to the said A. F. Hutto, his successors and assigns, and/or Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d/b/a Benson Scaffold & Equipment Company, their successors and assigns, to which payment we bind ourselves, our successors and assigns, jointly and severally.

Whereas, on the 17th day of February, 1953 a final order was entered in the above entitled action denying the Newark Insurance Company the right to intervene and the said Newark Insurance Company has duly filed a notice of appeal to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Now, Therefore, the condition of this bond is that if the said Newark Insurance Company shall pay all costs if the appeal is dismissed or the judgment affirmed, or such costs as the Court of Appeals may award if the judgment is modified, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY,
by ERMA G. GREENWOOD,
Attorney.

ERMA G. GREENWOOD.

ORDER MAKING CERTAIN EXHIBITS A PART OF THE RECORD.

(Filed March 13, 1953.)

By agreement of the parties, and the approval of the Court, the following exhibits are hereby made a part of the record in this cause:

1. Claim for compensation for injury filed by A. F. Hutto, claimant, with the Industrial Accident Board, State of Texas, dated September 19, 1951.

2. Notice by A. F. Hutto, claimant, of demand for lump sum settlement of compensation claim filed with the Industrial Accident Board, State of Texas, on September 28, 1951.

3. Medical report of Dr. Jack E. Maxfield, dated October 20, 1951, filed with the Industrial Accident Board of the State of Texas.

4. Notice of appeal to a Court of Competent Jurisdiction by A. F. Hutto, Claimant, filed with the Industrial Accident Board, State of Texas, dated October 23, 1951.

5. Copy of Senate Bill No. 237, Section 6-A, as passed by the Thirty-fifth Legislature of the State of Texas, commonly referred to as the "Third Party Action" Statute.

ROBT. L. TAYLOR,
Judge.

CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION FOR INJURY FILED BY A. F. HUTTO, CLAIMANT, WITH THE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT BOARD, STATE OF TEXAS, DATED SEPTEMBER 19, 1951.

(Received Sept. 19, 1951.)

Form No. 2 Order from The Stock Co., Austin, Texas.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT BOARD,
Austin, Texas.

Claim for Compensation for Injury.

Important—(This claim must be made out in duplicate and each question carefully and correctly answered within Six Months following infliction of injury, one copy to be mailed or delivered to your Employer or his or its Insurance Carrier, and one copy to the Industrial Accident Board at Austin, Texas.)

This is to notify you C. H. A. Paint Company and the
(Name of Employer or Insurance Carrier)
Newark Insurance Co. that I, A. F. Hutto, Social Security
(Print name here)
No. _____ claim compensation under the Employers' Liability Act for personal injury suffered while in the course of my employment for C. H. A. Paint Company at
(Be careful to give correct name of employer)
Wichita Falls, Texas. The time of my injury was _____
(City or town) (Hour)
o'clock _____ on the 13th day of August, 1951.
(a.m. or p.m.) (Month)

The place of injury was Alamo School, Wichita Falls, Texas.
(Give exact location or name of place where injury occurred)

Cause of injury Swinging Stage (Scaffold) Fell and I Fell.
(State exactly how injury occurred)

State part of body injured and nature and extent of injury Broken Neck, Back Injured, Brain Concussion, Right Leg, Other Cuts, Bruises and Lacerations.

(Describe injury with as much exactness as possible)

Did injury result in loss by amputation of a member or part of member? No. If so, name member and describe

(Yes or no)

exact point of amputation _____

My rate of pay on date of injury was $149.00 per week

(Hour, day, week or month)

Hours worked per day___ Days worked per week___

(Number) (Number)

Length of time regularly employed in same employment for this employer previous to this injury Approximately 7½ months.

(Years, months or days)

Give names and post office addresses of all witnesses in support of this claim for compensation _____

_____

Were you furnished medical attention when injured? Yes. If so, give name and address of doctor Dr. Harry
(Name of doctor)
Ledbetter, Medical & Surgical Clinic, Wichita Falls, Texas.
(City or town)

A. F. HUTTO,
By KEARBY PEERY, *Atty.*

(Signature injured employee)

(Street and number or R. F. D.)
----------, Texas.
(City or town)

Witness to Signature
PEERY & KOURI,
(Signature of witness)
500 Nacol Bldg.,
(Address of witness)
Wichita Falls, Texas.

In giving your address, be careful to give permanent or mail address so you will receive all your mail.

Dated this 13th day of September, 1951.

Attention: Carefully Read Letter of Instructions Before Filling Out Your Claim for Compensation for Injury.

Note—Part II. Employers' Liability Act. Unless the association or subscriber have notice of the injury, no proceeding for compensation for injury under this Act shall be maintained unless a notice of the injury shall have been given to the association or subscribed within thirty (30) days after the happening thereof, and unless a claim for

compensation with respect to such injury shall have been made within six (6) months after the occurrence of the same, or in case of death of the employee or in the event of his physical or mental incapacity within six (6) months after the death or the removal of such physical or mental incapacity. Provided, that for good cause the Board may in meritorious cases waive the strict compliance with the foregoing limitations as to notice and the filing of the claim before the Board.

NOTICE BY A. F. HUTTO, CLAIMANT, OF DEMAND FOR LUMP SUM SETTLEMENT OF COMPENSATION CLAIM FILED WITH THE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT BOARD, STATE OF TEXAS, ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1951.

(Received Sept. 28, 1951.)

The State of Texas)
County of Wichita)

To the Industrial Accident Board, Austin, Texas:

The undersigned, A. F. Hutto, says that on the 13th day of August, 1951, while in the employ of C. H. A. Paint Company he fell off of a scaffold for a distance of approximately thirty feet with the result that he broke his neck, injured his back and right leg, suffering a brain concussion, and that he is totally and permanently disabled.

That the week before his injury he earned approximately $149.00 in the course of his employment. That he has a wife and seven children and has no means of support other than what compensation is paid him. That the payment of $25.00 per week is wholly inadequate for him to support his wife and children with even the bare necessities of life. Hence, the failure to pay him his compensation in a lump sum will result in a manifest hardship and injustice to him.

A. F. Hutto further says that his employer and the Newark Fire Insurance Company had notice of his injury and his condition prior to the 13th of September, 1951,

and have had an adequate time to investigate the matter, and that three weeks would be a reasonable additional time for the Newark Fire Insurance Company to procure any evidence in opposition to his claim for a lump sum. Hence, A. F. Hutto makes a demand upon the Industrial Accident Board to set his case for a hearing on the merits, or in the alternative on the question of lump sum, or on both, within twenty-one days from this date.

A. F. HUTTO.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned authority, this the 26th day of September, 1951.

KEARBY PEERY,
Notary Public in and for
Wichita County, Texas.

MEDICAL REPORT OF DR. JACK E. MAXFIELD, DATED OCTOBER 20, 1951, FILED WITH THE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT BOARD OF THE STATE OF TEXAS.

Wichita Falls Clinic Hospital
Wichita Falls, Texas
October 20, 1951

Insurance Adjustment Service
1904 W. T. Waggoner Building
Ft. Worth, Texas

Re: A. F. Hutto vs.
C. H. A. Painting Company.

Gentlemen:

Mr. A. F. Hutto reported to this office on October 26, 1951 for consultation at the request of Dr. Harry Ledbetter relative to an injury which the patient allegedly sustained on August 13, 1951 in a thirty foot fall from a

scaffold. The patient states that in that fall he lacerated the right leg and right ear, bruised his forehead, and injured his neck and upper back. The patient has been under the care of Dr. Ledbetter who sutured the wounds on the leg and ear, and placed the patient in head traction for a period of eight days in the hospital. Traction was then replaced by a brace which the patient has been wearing since that time. On this occasion the patient states that his leg and ear are giving him no serious trouble. He had a bruise across the lower part of the dorsal back, but that it now gives no pain and only occasional sensation of tiredness. About one week ago Dr. Ledbetter asked the patient to begin to remove the cervical brace on occasions each day to get used to going about without it. The patient states that when he does this he gets severe headaches which are relieved only by reapplication of the brace.

Examination of the patient's neck shows that he holds it quite rigidly and is very hesitant about moving it in any direction. There is no associated muscle spasm in the neck, however, and we get the impression that the patient's failure to move the neck in the various directions is assimilated chiefly by fear. There is some apparent tenderness to palpation over the lower cervical spine and upper thoracic spine. X-rays of the neck were taken which show evidence of a mild compression fracture of the fifth cervical vertebra, and a moderate compression of the sixth cervical vertebra. The disk space between the sixth and seventh cervical vertebra is narrowed. There is no subluxation or dislocation of any part of the spine, and it appears that the spine is stable in its present position.

It is my feeling that there is nothing to be gained by further immobilization of the neck at this time, and that the patient must be encouraged to continue active exercise and use of the neck without support. It is my feeling that permanent disability from this injury will be rather mild and manifested only by slight restriction of neck motion. I feel that the headache which occurs after removal of the brace at this time is a tension type of headache promoted

by fear and nervous tension incident to removal of the brace.

Sincerely yours,
JACK E. MAXFIELD, M. D.,
Orthopedic Surgeon.

NOTICE OF APPEAL TO A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION BY A. F. HUTTO, CLAIMANT, FILED WITH THE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT BOARD, STATE OF TEXAS, DATED OCTOBER 23, 1951.

(Received Oct. 23, 1951.)

Wichita Falls, Texas,
October 22, 1951.

Industrial Accident Board,
Land Office Building,
Austin, Texas.

Re: No. K-45259
A. F. Hutto vs. C. H. A. Paint Company
Newark Fire Insurance Co., Insurer

Gentlemen:

This is to advise you that the claimant will not abide by the final decision and award of the Industrial Accident Board in the above entitled and numbered cause wherein the Board refused to set the above case on its merits or on the question of lump sum as demanded in the affidavit of A. F. Hutto on file in the above cause. That within twenty days from this date the said claimant, A. F. Hutto, will file a suit in a court of competent jurisdiction to set aside said award and to review the Board's action in refusing to set

this case within a reasonable time on its merits or on the question of lump sum.

A. F. HUTTO,
BY KEARBY PEERY, Attorney,
500 Nacol Building,
Wichita Falls, Texas.

Air Mail, Registered
Return Receipt Requested

This will acknowledge receipt in this office of Notice of Intention to Appeal on 23 day of Oct., A. D. 1951.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT BOARD
LELA MARTIN
Secretary

COPY OF SENATE BILL NO. 237, SECTION 6-A, AS PASSED BY THE THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE "THIRD PARTY ACTION" STATUTE, ARTICLE 8307, SECTION 6(a) OF VERNONS TEXAS STATUTES.

Section 6a. Where the injury for which compensation is payable under this Act was caused under circumstances creating a legal liability in some person other than the subscriber to pay damages in respect thereof, the employe may at his option proceed either at law against that person to recover damages or against the association for compensation under this Act, but not against both, and if he elects to proceed at law against the person other than the subscriber, then he shall not be entitled to compensation under the provisions of this Act; if compensation be claimed under this Act by the injured employe or his legal beneficiaries, then the association shall be subrogated

to the rights of the injured employe in so far as may be necessary and may enforce in the name of the injured employe or of his legal beneficiaries or in its own name and for the joint use and benefit of said employe or beneficiaries and the association the liability of said other person, and in case the association recovers a sum greater than that paid or assumed by the association to the employe or his legal beneficiaries, together with a reasonable cost of enforcing such liability, which shall be determined by the court trying the case, then out of the sum so recovered the association shall reimburse itself and pay said cost and the excess so recovered shall be paid to the injured employe or his beneficiaries. The association shall not have the right to adjust or compromise such liability against such third person without notice to the injured employe or his beneficiaries. The association shall not have the right to adjust or compromise such liability against such third person without notice to the injured employe or his beneficiaries and the approval of the board, upon a hearing thereof.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT.

CAUSES ARGUED AND SUBMITTED.

(February 8, 1954—Before Simons, Allen and Miller, JJ.)

These causes are argued by Jesse C. Parks, Jr., for A. F. Hutto, by Erma Greenwood for Newark Insurance Company, and by H. H. McCampbell, Jr., for Howard R. Benson, et al., and are submitted to the court.

JUDGMENT. No. 11,873.

(Filed April 30, 1954.)

Appeal from the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

This cause came on to be heard on the transcript of the record from the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Tennessee, and was argued by counsel.

On consideration whereof, it is now here ordered and adjudged by this Court that the judgment of the said District Court in this cause be and the same is hereby reversed and the case remanded to the District Court for proceedings in accordance with the opinion herein.

JUDGMENT. No. 11,874.

(Filed April 30, 1954.)

Appeal from the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

This cause came on to be heard on the transcript of the record from the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Tennessee, and was argued by counsel.

On consideration whereof, it is now here ordered and adjudged by this Court that the judgment of the said District Court in this cause be and the same is hereby reversed and the case remanded to the District Court for proceedings in accordance with the opinion herein.

OPINION.

Nos. 11873, 11874

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

A. F. HUTTO,
Appellant,
v.
HOWARD R. BENSON and ROBERT H. BENSON, d.b.a. BENSON CABLE SCAFFOLD MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
Appellees.

No. 11873

NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY,
Appellant,
v.
HOWARD R. BENSON and ROBERT H. BENSON, d.b.a. BENSON SCAFFOLD & EQUIPMENT COMPANY,
Appellees.

No. 11874

APPEAL from the District Court of the United States, Eastern District of Tennessee, Northern Division.

Decided April 30, 1954.

SIMONS, Chief Judge, ALLEN and MILLER, Circuit Judges.

ALLEN, Circuit Judge. These two appeals, one instituted by the appellant Hutto, hereinafter called Hutto, in a personal injury action, and the other by the appellant Newark Insurance Company, hereinafter called Newark, insurer under the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas, involve the same transactions and were consolidated for argument and decision. Each attacks a judgment of the District Court which dismissed an action against a third party resident in the State of Tennessee upon the ground that the Tennessee statute of limitations

had run. This statute provides a limitation of one year for personal injury cases, while the Texas period of limitation in such cases is two years.

On August 20, 1952, Hutto filed a complaint against the appellees, residents of the State of Tennessee, in the District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee. Hutto alleged that he was a painter by trade and that on or about the 13th day of August, 1951, while he was engaged in the performance of his duties in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas, a scaffold made or manufactured by the appellees and then being used by Hutto, gave way by reason of negligent or defective construction, causing Hutto to fall and suffer serious injuries. Later Hutto prayed for leave to amend his complaint by adding two new paragraphs which read as follows:

> "That his injuries arose 'out of' and 'in the course of' his employment and by reason thereof he filed a claim with the Industrial Accident Board of the State of Texas for those benefits provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act of that State on September 13, 1951, his employer, the C. H. A. Paint Company, and their workmen's compensation insurance carrier, the Newark Insurance Company, being duly notified. The Industrial Accident Board of the State of Texas, duly charged with the administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act of that State, determined that he was entitled to compensation, and accordingly made an award in an amount unsatisfactory to him. That thereafter he appealed the decision of the Industrial Accident Board to the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Wichita Falls Division, and while his suit was pending therein entered into a compromise agreement under the terms of which the Newark Insurance Company, as the Workmen's Compensation insurance carrier for his employer, paid to him the sum of Forty-five Hundred ($4,500.00) Dollars in addition to the sum of One Hundred Seventy-five ($175.00) Dollars which the

Newark Insurance Company had theretofore paid him and in addition to medical expenses to that date incurred by him in the amount of Four Hundred Four ($404.64) and 64/100 Dollars. That on the 29th day of November, 1951, the Industrial Accident Board of the State of Texas entered an order approving the compromise settlement made by the parties.

"That under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of the State of Texas, the injured employee, having collected from his employer or its insurer those benefits provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act of the State of Texas, may then proceed at law against a negligent third party, or that party responsible for his injuries, and recover damages therefor. That the amount received by him under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of the State of Texas are hideously inadequate in view of the seriousness of his injuries and he therefore now brings this action."

Appellant Newark filed a motion to intervene as plaintiff and tendered a complaint which, in addition to the facts set forth in Hutto's complaint, reads as follows:

"6. That on or about September 13, 1951, the original plaintiff herein, A. F. Hutto, duly filed his claim for compensation for injury with the Industrial Accident Board of Texas under the style and number of *A. F. Hutto v. C. H. A. Painting Company,* No. K-45259.

"7. That on or about November 23, 1951, and during the pendency of said claim before the Industrial Accident Board of Texas the parties entered into a compromise settlement agreement of said claim under the terms of which the Newark Insurance Company as Workmen's Compensation insurance carrier for C. H. A. Painting Company was to pay to said A. F. Hutto the sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred ($4,500.00) Dollars in addition to the

sum of One Hundred Seventy-five ($175.00) Dollars which the said Newark Insurance Company had theretofore paid to the said A. F. Hutto, and in addition to medical expenses in the amount of Four Hundred Four and 65/100 ($404.65) Dollars incurred by or for the said A. F. Hutto as the result of the accidental injuries aforesaid. That on the 29th day of November, 1951, the Industrial Accident Board of Texas entered an order approving the compromise settlement agreement made by the parties.

"8. That pursuant to said order this intervenor, Newark Insurance Company, on or about December 1, 1951, paid to the said A. F. Hutto the additional sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred ($4,500.00) Dollars, making in all the sum of Five Thousand Seventy-nine and 65/100 ($5,079.65) Dollars paid by this intervenor as compensation benefits and medical services to the said A. F. Hutto as a result of the accidental injuries received by the said Hutto at the time and place aforesaid.

"9. That under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas the employee, having collected benefits from his employer or its insurer under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas, may then proceed at law against a negligent third person to recover damages for the injuries sustained by him. However, under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas in those instances in which the employee prosecutes an action against a negligent third person after having received compensation benefits from his employer or its insurer, such employee may not recover from such negligent third party the sums paid by the insurer or employer. However, an insurer which has paid compensation benefits to an injured employee is subrogated to the rights of such injured employee against a negligent third party to the extent of payments made, expenses incurred, etc., and

may itself maintain an action against such negligent third party, or may intervene as a party plaintiff in such an action brought by the injured employee and may itself recover from the negligent third party such sums paid by it to the employee together with the reasonable costs of such liability as determined by the court trying the case."

Newark demanded judgment for the sum of $5,079.65 with interest, together with the reasonable cost of enforcing the liability and the costs of the action. The District Court considered that the action was barred by the statute of limitations of Tennessee and therefore refused to permit Hutto's amended complaint and Newark's intervening complaint to be filed.

Appellant contends that this holding runs counter to the decisions of this court in *Wilson v. Massengill,* 124 Fed. (2d) 666, and *Maki v. George R. Cooke Co.,* 124 Fed. (2d) 663. In these cases our court applied the doctrine that, where by statute a state creates a cause of action for wrongful death and prescribes in the same statute a limitation period for such action, such limitation will be applied in the forum of a sister state, although the period of limitation for a like action in the latter state is shorter. See also *Theroux v. Northern Pacific R. Co.,* 64 Fed. 84; *Lewis v. Reconstruction Finance Corporation,* 177 Fed. (2d) 654 (C. A. D. C.).

This contention cannot be sustained, for the premise upon which the cited cases were based is absent here. No limitation period is prescribed in the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas. The applicable provision is part of the general Texas statute of limitations. Moreover, the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Co.,* 345 U. S. 514, has recently cast doubt upon the doctrine of *Wilson v. Massengill, supra.* In that case the alleged wrongful death occurred in Alabama and the action was instituted in Pennsylvania. The statute creating the cause of action for wrongful death in Alabama prescribed a limitation of two years, while the

period set in the Pennsylvania general statute of limitations provided one year. Although the Alabama statute construed embodied a limitation provision, the Pennsylvania District Court and the Court of Appeals applied the one-year limitation and the Supreme Court of the United States affirmed the judgment, holding that it did not violate the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the Constitution.

However, on another point the majority of the court thinks appellants' contentions are more tenable. The precise provision of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas compelled Hutto first to apply for compensation to the Industrial Accident Board of Texas before bringing action against the third party alleged tort-feasor. Under this statute as construed by the Texas courts the right of the employee to sue the third party does not accrue until the insurer under the Workmen's Compensation Act has assumed liability for compensation or has paid such compensation. *Buss v. Robison,* 255 S. W. (2d) 339. A compromise settlement between the parties herein was finally approved by the Industrial Accident Board of Texas on November 29, 1951. Hutto could not maintain the instant case until November 29, 1951, without being penalized by losing his action for workmen's compensation. The Tennessee statute of limitations, Section 8595, Code of Tennessee, provides that actions "for injuries to the person" must be brought "within one year after cause of action accrued." If Hutto's action against the third party did not accrue until November 29, 1951, the complaint filed in Tennessee August 20, 1952, was timely brought. In Tennessee the statute of limitations runs only after the accrual of a complete right of action. *Reynolds Tobacco Co. v. Carson,* 187 Tenn. 157. The complete cause of action here would certainly comprehend the right to sue the third party tort-feasor. The controlling question, therefore, is when the action against the appellees accrued.

The District Court relied upon the Restatement of Law, Conflict of Laws, Sections 585 and 603, which provide that all matters of procedure are governed by the law of the forum, and that if action is barred by the statute

of limitations of the forum no action can be maintained, though action is not barred in the state where the cause of action arose. But the Tennessee statute comes into force when the action accrues and the question when the action accrues is settled by the Texas decisions.

We think the Texas legislature by its treatment of the action against the third party tort-feasor qualifying and abridging the right made it part of the local law. In recognition of the fact that Hutto is drastically penalized for bringing his third party action before pursuing his workmen's compensation claim, the Texas courts hold that the right to sue the third party tort-feasor accrues after settlement of the workmen's compensation claim. Thus *Fidelity Union Casualty Co. v. Texas Power and Light Co.*, 35 S. W. (2) 782, held that no cause of action accrued on the respective claims (of the insurer and the injured employee) "until the final judgment of this court, when the facts necessary to give the casualty company and Riley [the injured plaintiff] an enforceable right, was given the judicial determination contemplated by said statute." While *Webster v. Isbell*, 71 S. W. (2d) 342, held that the running of the statute of limitations was suspended in a workmen's compensation case until the Industrial Accident Board finally acted upon and approved the claim, the holding in the controlling cases is that the action does not accrue until compensation is either paid or assumed by the insurance company. This was the rule laid down in *Buss v. Robison, supra*, decided in 1952. In that case the court cited the Texas authorities, pointed out that some of them had been unconditionally approved by the Supreme Court of Texas, and specifically held that the claim of the wife of the decedent employee suing individually and as next friend of her minor children, and for the use and benefit of the insurance company and of the father and mother of the decedent employee, did not accrue until the insurance company assumed liability.

In view of the Texas decisions we think no question of conflict between the Tennessee and the Texas statute exists.

Since the action did not accrue until after the settlement of the compensation claim it is timely brought, whether the one-year statute of Tennessee or the two-year statute of Texas is applied.

The conclusion of the majority of the court that the action was timely brought requires that the District Court's denial of the motions to amend and to intervene be reversed.

The judgment is reversed and the case is remanded to the District Court for proceedings in accordance with this opinion.

SIMONS, Chief Judge, dissenting. Basically, the question here presented is the Conflict of Law Rule of the State of Tennessee. That state in Section 8595 of its Code provides that actions for injuries to the person must be brought within one year after the cause of action accrued and under Tennessee law an action accrues when injury is suffered. Texas has a general two-year statutes of limitations but, by a provision in its Workmen's Compensation Act, a plaintiff seeking recovery against a third party tortfeasor must first resort to his remedy under that act and may not sue the third party until such proceedings are concluded and compensation paid or assumed. The Texas Court of Civil Appeals in *Buss v. Robison*, 255 S. W. (2d) 339, held that a claim for damages does not accrue until this condition has been satisfied. The case on which it relies refer to the provision as a suspension of the statute of limitations.

The question whether in diversity cases the federal courts must follow conflict of law rules prevailing in the states in which they sit, which was left open in *Ruhlin v. New York Life Insurance Company*, 304 U. S. 202, was finally answered in *Klaxon Company v. Stentor Company*, 313 U. S. 487, where it was held that the prohibition declared in *Erie R. R. Co. v. Tompkins*, 304 U. S. 64, against independent determination by the federal court extends to the field of conflict of law. The court said: "The conflict of laws rules to be applied by the federal

court in Delaware must conform to those prevailing in Delaware's state courts. Otherwise, the accident of diversity of citizenship would constantly disturb equal administration of justice in coordinate state and federal courts sitting side by side. (See *Erie R. R. Co. v. Tompkins, supra,* at pp. 74-77). Any other ruling would do violence to the principle of uniformity within a state, upon which the *Tompkins* decision is based. Whatever lack of uniformity this may produce between federal courts in different states is attributable to our federal system, which leaves to a state within the limits permitted by the Constitution the right to pursue local policies diverging from those of its neighbors. It is not for the federal courts to thwart such local policies. * * *" In *Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Company,* 345 U. S. 514, the question was by grant of certiorari limited to whether the Pennsylvania Conflicts Rule violated the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the Federal Constitution and it was said that the states are free to adopt such rules of conflict of laws as they choose and that applying the statute of limitations of the forum to a foreign substantive right did not deny full faith and credit.

My view is that while Texas may deny access to its courts to those who failed to comply with the condition of its Workmen's Compensation Act, it has no power to suspend or toll the Tennessee statute in limitations. *Doncher v. Marlin Firearms Company,* 198 Fed. (2d) 821 (2 Cir.), *Cauley v. S. E. Massengill Company,* 35 Fed. Supp. 371, D. C. Tenn. In the latter case, it was said: "Statutes of limitations being designed according to the sound policy of each state for itself to put at rest litigation after the lapse of certain varying periods of time, cannot be extended by the legislatures of foreign states, * * *." Our decisions in *Wilson v. Massengill, supra,* and *Maki v. Cooke, supra,* referred to in the majority opinion, reached a different result but, as that opinion demonstrates, they are no longer sound authority in the light of the *Wells* case, *supra.*

I think the judgment of the District Court should be affirmed.

Office - Supreme Court, U. S.
FILED
AUG 23 1954
HAROLD B. WILLEY, Clerk

IN THE

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

OCTOBER TERM, 1953.

No. 222

HOWARD R. BENSON and ROBERT H. BENSON, Doing Business as BENSON SCAFFOLD MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
Petitioners,

Versus

A. F. HUTTO AND NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY.

BRIEF OF RESPONDENT,

Newark Insurance Company, in Opposition to Petition for Writ of Certiorari.

ERMA G. GREENWOOD,
RUSSELL R. KRAMER,
904 Burwell Building,
Knoxville, Tennessee,
Attorneys for Respondent,
Newark Insurance Company.

KRAMER, DYE, McNABB & GREENWOOD,
Of Counsel.

St. Louis Law Printing Co., 415 North Eighth Street. Cliford 1-4977.

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF BRIEF.

	Page
Opinions below	2
Jurisdiction	2
Statutes involved	2
Questions presented	2
Statement of the case	2
Reasons why the writ should be denied	5
Conclusion	7
Appendix	9

Cases Cited.

Buss v. Robison et al., ... Texas ...., 255 S. W. (2d) 339	5
Fidelity Union Casualty Co. v. Texas Power & Light Co., Texas Civ. App., 35 S. W. (2d) 782	5
Illinois Central R. Co. v. Kuhn, 107 Tenn. 106, 64 S. W. 202	6
Louisville etc. R. R. Co. v. Reagan, 96 Tenn. 128, 33 S. W. 1050	6
McDaniel v. Mulvihill, ... Tenn. ...., 263 S. W. (2d) 759	7
Parsons v. American Trust Co., 168 Tenn. 49, 73 S. W. (2d) 698	5, 6
Reynolds Tobacco Co. v. Carson, 187 Tenn. 157, 213 S. W. (2d) 45	6
Slater v. Mexican National Railroad Co., 194 U. S. 120, 48 L. Ed. 900, 24 S. Ct. 581	5

Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Co., 345 U. S. 514, 97 L. Ed. 1211, 73 S. Ct. 856..... 7

Young v. Masci, 289 U. S. 253, 77 L. Ed. 1158, 53 S. Ct. 599, 88 A. L. R. 170..... 5

Statutes Cited.

Williams' 1932 Code of Tennessee as amended, Sec. 6865 ..... 6, 9

Williams' 1932 Code of Tennessee, Sec. 8592.....6, 10

Williams' 1932 Code of Tennessee, Sec. 8595.....6, 10

IN THE

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

OCTOBER TERM, 1953.

No. .....

HOWARD R. BENSON and ROBERT H. BENSON, Doing Business as BENSON SCAFFOLD MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
Petitioners,

Versus

A. F. HUTTO AND NEWARK INSURANCE COMPANY.

BRIEF OF RESPONDENT,

Newark Insurance Company, in Opposition to Petition for Writ of Certiorari.

Your respondent, Newark Insurance Company, respectfully files this, its brief in opposition to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Judicial Circuit.

OPINIONS BELOW.

The opinions below are correctly reported by the petitioners, the opinion of the District Court being found in the appendix to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari at page 12a, and the opinion of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit being found on page 14 thereof.

JURISDICTION.

Your respondent agrees with the petitioners as to the jurisdictional averments.

STATUTES INVOLVED.

The relevant statutes are set out in the appendix to this brief.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED.

Is the decision of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit to the effect that the date of accrual of a cause of action is determined by the lex loci delicti and not by the lex forum in conflict either with the laws of Tennessee (which was the forum state) or with the applicable decisions of this Honorable Court?

STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

Presented to this Court is a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to review the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit rendered on April 30, 1954, reversing the decision of the District Court of

the United States for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Northern Division, rendered on February 3, 1953.

The appendix referred to throughout this brief is the appendix to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari except where otherwise indicated.

In the original action, instituted in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Northern Division, on August 20, 1952 (Appendix, p. 3a), the original plaintiff, A. F. Hutto, sought to recover from the defendants, Howard R. Benson and Robert H. Benson, d/b/a Benson Cable Scaffold Manufacturing Company, damages for personal injuries (Appendix, p. 6a). The accident complained of occurred on August 13, 1951 in the State of Texas under circumstances entitling the plaintiff, Hutto, to benefits under the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas. Those benefits were paid by the Newark Insurance Company as the Workmen's Compensation insurance carrier for the employer of the original plaintiff and that company sought to intervene in the original action in order to assert against negligent third parties the rights conferred upon it by the Workmen's Compensation Act of Texas (Appendix, p. 5a).

On September 6, 1952 the defendant filed a motion to dismiss the action on the ground that the Tennessee one-year Statute of Limitations had run at the time the action was commenced (Appendix, p. 5a). On November 24, 1952, the Newark Insurance Company filed its motion to be permitted to intervene as a party plaintiff, such motion being accompanied by a copy of the intervening complaint which the Newark Insurance Company proposed to file (Appendix, p. 5a). On December 10, 1952, the original plaintiff moved the court to be permitted to amend the original complaint by inserting allegations setting forth the proceedings had before the Industrial

Accident Board of Texas under the Workmen's Compensation Act and the entry of an order by that Board on November 29, 1951 approving a compromise settlement made by the parties (Appendix, p. 10a).

On February 3, 1953, the Honorable Robert L. Taylor, District Judge, filed a memorandum opinion in which he sustained the defendants' motion to dismiss, Hutto's motion to amend was denied upon the ground that the amendment if granted would not affect the outcome. At the same time the motion of Newark Insurance Company to be permitted to intervene as a party plaintiff was denied upon the ground that the original action being barred did not admit of intervention (Opinion Trial Judge, 110 Fed. Supp. 355) (Appendix, p. 16a).

The order dismissing the case was entered on February 17, 1953 (Appendix, p. 16a) and the original plaintiff perfected an appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit as did the Newark Insurance Company (Appendix, pp. 17a, 19a). Thereafter, these appeals were consolidated upon the docket of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and that court after having heard oral argument rendered its decision on April 20, 1954, reversing the judgment of the District Court and remanding the case for further proceedings upon the ground that under the laws of Texas the original plaintiff's cause of action did not accrue until November 29, 1951 and that his action instituted on August 20, 1952 in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee was not barred by the Tennessee one-year Statute of Limitations.

REASONS WHY THE WRIT SHOULD BE DENIED.

The decision of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in the instant cases is not in any way in conflict with the applicable laws of Tennessee or with the decisions of this Honorable Court.

In accordance with the decisions of this Court in **Slater v. Mexican National Railroad Company**, 194 U. S. 120, 48 L. Ed. 900, 24 S. Ct. 581; **Young v. Masci**, 289 U. S. 253, 77 L. Ed. 1158, 53 S. Ct. 599, 88 A. L. R. 170, and of the Supreme Court of Tennessee in **Parsons v. American Trust Company**, 168 Tenn. 49, 73 S. W. (2d) 698, the Court of Appeals held in the cases at bar that the lex loci delicti (Texas) determines the question of whether or not an act or omission gives rise to a right of action or civil liability for tort.

Hence the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit looked to the laws of the State of Texas to determine the date of the accrual of the plaintiffs' cause of action.

212 Fed. 2d 349 at p. 353, Appendix pp. 19-21.

Under the Texas Workmen's Compensation Act as construed by the Texas Courts the plaintiffs' cause of action did not accrue until the insurer under the Workmen's Compensation Act assumed liability for the payment of compensation benefits on November 29, 1951.

See:

Fidelity Union Casualty Co. v. Texas Power & Light Co., Texas Civil Appeals, 35 S. W. 2d 782;
Buss v. Robison et al., ... Texas ..., 255 S. W. 2d 339.

A cause of action enforceable under the lex loci delicti is enforceable in the Courts of Tennessee even though such

cause of action is unknown to the laws of that state, except in those instances where the enforcement of such an action is contrary to the public policy of the forum.

Louisville etc. R. R. Co. v. Reagan, 96 Tenn. 128, 33 S. W. 1050;
Illinois Central v. Kuhn, 107 Tenn. 106, 64 S. W. 202;
Parsons v. American Trust Co., 168 Tenn. 49, 73 S. W. (2d) 689.

The enforcement of the plaintiffs' cause of action is not contrary to the public policy of Tennessee. Tennessee recognizes the right of an injured employee who has been paid compensation benefits to recover damages against a negligent third party. It also gives the right of subrogation to an insurer who has paid benefits under the Workmen's Compensation Act. (Section 6865, Williams' 1932 Code of Tennessee as amended. See page 9 Appendix to this brief.)

Moreover, the enforcement of the Texas law establishing the date of accrual of the plaintiffs' cause of action is not contrary to the public policy of Tennessee. The Tennessee Statute of Limitations is found in Sections 8592 and 8595 of Williams' 1932 Code.

The Tennessee courts have consistently held that this Statute of Limitations begins to run only after the **accrual** of a complete cause of action.

The Tennessee rule is stated in the case of **Reynolds Tobacco Co. v. Carson,** 187 Tenn. 157, 213 S. W. 2d 45, as follows:

> "A Statute of Limitation runs only after the accrual of a complete right of action . . .
>
> "'. . . the courts uniformly hold that a right of action generally accrues when the complainant can

bring suit to recover a sum of money alleged to be due and unpaid.' "

It is clearly apparent from the opinion of the Court of Appeals in the instant cases that that Court followed the decisions of the Supreme Court of Tennessee in holding the Statute of Limitations did not begin to run until the right of action accrued. It is further apparent that the conclusion reached by the Court of Appeals that the date of accrual of a cause of action is determined by the lex loci delicti is in strict conformity with the applicable decisions of this Court and of the Supreme Court of Tennessee.

In the brief filed by petitioners it is erroneously assumed that the Court of Appeals applied the Texas two-year Statute of Limitations rather than the Tennessee one-year Statute. However, it should be noted that the Court of Appeals expressly refused to apply the Texas two-year Statute. (See portion of opinion of Court of Appeals found at bottom of page 18 and top of page 19 of Petitioners' brief.)

Consequently the opinion of the Court of Appeals in these cases in no way conflicts with the decision of this court in the case of **Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Company,** 345 U. S. 514, 97 L. Ed. 1211, or of the Supreme Court of Tennessee in the case of **McDaniel v. Mulvihill,** ... Tenn. ..., 263 S. W. (2d) 759.

CONCLUSION.

We therefore most respectfully submit that a review by this Court of the decision of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit is not warranted inasmuch as there is no conflict between that decision and the applicable laws of Tennessee or with the applicable decisions of this Honorable

Court. Moreover, the question presented is not of such import as to warrant a review by this Honorable Court.

Wherefore, this respondent prays that a writ of certiorari be denied.

ERMA G. GREENWOOD,
RUSSELL R. KRAMER,
904 Burwell Building,
Knoxville, Tennessee,
Attorneys for Respondent,
Newark Insurance Company.

KRAMER, DYE, McNABB & GREENWOOD,
Of Counsel.